



Pythian International

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SPRING / SUMMER 2013



A Message from

The Supreme Chancellor

Welcome my Brothers to the “**New Pythian International**”.

Supreme Vice Chancellor Keith Stooksberry and his committee are off and running.

This has been a very satisfying term for me since I was installed as your Supreme Chancellor. My thanks to my Supreme Council, the Chief Deputy and the DSCs, for their help.

My congratulations to the many newly created Knights that have recently joined Our Great Order.

I hope you will wear your ACS Pythian shirts proudly. Congratulations to the Subordinate Lodges, and Grand Domains on their membership drives and Rathbone Ranks.

Wishing you all a Great Pythian Year.

With Fraternal Love,

Jerry Deitch

Grand Lodge Conventions Spring/Summer 2013

Massachusetts Hyannis	May 15-16
South Carolina Columbia	May 18-19
Florida Boca Raton	May 17-18
California Visalia	May 30-June 1
Alabama Bessemer	June 1
Arizona Tucson	June 7-9
Tennessee Pigeon Forge	June 7-9
Texas Irving	June 7-9
New York Callicoon	July 8-11
Indiana Lafayette	July 11-13
West Virginia Morgantown	July 11-12

NOTE: The Supreme Chancellor plans to personally visit the following Grand Conventions this Spring: British Columbia, Florida, California, Arizona and New York. The complete list of Spring/Summer Conventions is printed above.

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From the Supreme Secretary's Desk

Orders for materials, supplies, jewelry are coming in and going out on a timely basis. Correspondence is being answered, bills are being paid. All orders for Jewels of Office, Jewels of Honor, and Pythian supplies are to be ordered through the Supreme Lodge Office.

All orders for supplies are to go through your Grand Lodge Office; I will invoice your Grand Secretary; he in turn will invoice you or your Lodge. Subordinate Lodge Secretaries and/or individual members are requested to place their orders with and through their Grand Secretary.

We are now able to get golf shirts, with and without pockets, with the Pythian Logo embroidered – we can even have the name of your lodge or your domain embroidered, too. There is, however, a minimum number that need to be ordered; what that number is, is still being worked out. But the shirts, already sent to Florida, come in a lot of different colors (sorry, only one color per order) and various sizes. I will put the information out as soon as the minimum number is established.

Vivian Bissett is in the office two days a week, Mondays and Wednesdays. The Eagle Scout Certificate program has now been revamped to the point where we are encouraging the Grand Domains to take a more active role in the project. The Supreme Lodge Office is now selling Eagle Scout certificates and patches for 15¢ and \$1.10 each respectively, plus the cost of postage.

The office is now open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EST; and Friday from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The Supreme Lodge Office is here to serve YOU, the membership of the Knights of Pythias.

Supreme Lodge News

PUBLIC RELATIONS, VITAL TODAY AND TOMORROW, Joel D. Fierstien, SMA

Public Relations is a vital function now and for the future. See this as promotion, visibility, publicizing, and recruitment. The need is perpetual. Promote the Order to the public and to groups with media releases, articles and photos of activities and people. Post announcements where messages may be displayed. Use electronic media and cable TV to reach more and a younger audience. Wear and display the name or logo of the Knights of Pythias. Events and activities create promotional opportunities. With activities, each step may be promoted with a release-announcing the event, looking for volunteers to join us, the date and place, and after the event. Community Service is the Knights of Pythias doing things for and with the community. Pythian Awareness Week is the opportunity for all lodges to be promoting and recruiting with everyone doing something to advance the Order and its visibility during the same week. The Knights of Pythias Medallion provides an excellent vehicle to honor someone and to announce that to the public, promoting the event and acknowledging an individual on behalf of our order and a lodge. Remember photos are invaluable aids and preserve the history. Plan events and recognition commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Order. Allow ample time for planning and promotion to give your ideas the time to be successful.

A NOTE FROM MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN Alan Krell, SP, KGS

The Knights of Pythias was originally founded in 1864 to soothe the wounds of all military personnel after the Civil War.

The Supreme Lodge has now embarked on a program to honor our returning military personnel by again offering them membership in our celebrated fraternal order. Once again we will attempt to soothe their wounds after returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

As the only fraternal order chartered by an act of congress, we can offer a continued feeling of belonging to a brotherhood founded on the principles of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence.

Since the federal government will not issue individual names of returning military personnel, we are requesting that if anyone has information about any returning military units in their domain, please forward that information to me so that I can contact them with our offer of membership.

These brothers and sisters have served us well and its time that we as members of the Pythian Order repay the debt.

As an additional thought and benefit, we would suggest to those lodges interested in this program that they consider free first years dues for all new military members.



At the Supreme Council meeting in March, former Supreme Treasurer, Erwin Waldman resigned for personal reasons. Supreme Chancellor Deitch appointed Sir Alan Ast of New York to fill the unexpired term.

Pictured at left is ST Ast being installed by SP Alan Krell at the F.D.R. Lodge Hall in Brooklyn, New York.

Grand Lodge News

Illinois



On April 10, 2013, at a regular meeting of Twin City Lodge #69 in Urbana, Illinois, GC Dave Eifert presented PGC Warren Strohm with a Pythian Medal to honor his 65 years in the order. PGC Warren also had his picture taken with four of Twin City Lodge #69 youngest members. The members are Lodge Secretary Evan Bruno, CC Tony Bruno, MA Louie Harper and Prelate Charles Miercke. All four members are second generation Pythians.

Maritime Provinces



Eugene Mattinson DSC had the pleasure of presenting trophies for the annual Kub Kar races for the area. Fredericton Lodge #6 has been sponsor of the Kub Kar races since 1978 — thirty five years.

Members of International Lodge #61 The Order of Knights of Pythias in St. Stephen presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the St. Stephen Fire Department to help pay for the cost of EMS and firefighting equipment components for the department's new off road utility vehicle.



From left are lodge members Wayne Spires, Bill Russell, Ernie Richards, Chief Jeff Richardson, lodge members Fred Maguire, Gerald Arsenault, Bob Biddle, George McLay, firefighter Andrene Mosher and lodge member Ian MacMichael.

New Hampshire

Trinity Lodge of Plaistow, NH. recently presented two Eagle Scout Awards. Danville Lodge in Vermont has three Eagle Scouts waiting to have their court of honor. We seem to have about 6 each year between the two states.

New Hampshire

Ed Wright of Trinity Lodge recently introduced the Senate at the Middle School to the need of working for the local food pantry. He started them off with a gift of \$250.00 from Trinity Lodge. Each member of the Senate has a Senior Buddy and they will contact them asking for a small donation to help them with money to shop for the food pantry. This donation serves two purposes, it tells our young people about the Knights of Pythias and also helps the food pantry.

Tennessee

Tennessee Knights of Pythias Cancer Relay for Life Team has collected over \$1000.00 for Cancer thru donations, roadblock fundraisers and pinto beans/cornbread supper. Our County Relay for Life annual event was held on April 19, 2013 at Roane State Community College campus with over 30 teams participating with a total goal of \$75,000.00. This is our Knights of Pythias Relay for Life Team's 5th year to participate in this worthy charity event and our Team has raised over \$1000.00 each year.

Tennessee Grand Lodge Convention will be held on June 7-9, 2013 at Governor's Inn in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Room rates \$76.00 plus tax - (2 queen beds) with complimentary breakfast. Phone 1-800-523-3919 for reservations. All Pythians are invited to attend. Contact: Robert Officer, G. C. or Bobby Crowe, G. S., for complete details.

Massachusetts

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has made the following donations :

\$32,450.00 was donated to Handi Kids Camp in Bridgewater, MA. The camp, founded close to 50 years ago by the Knights of Pythias for special needs children, is still supported by the Knights to this date.



Pictured left to right: GOG Edward Paderon; GMA Joseph Haskell; GVC Marc Cadoff making the presentation to Past President of the Board of Directors of Handi Kids, Sir Alan Zamansky, PSR/GT; GIG David C. Kahan; and GP Maurice Marcus.

\$750.00 was donated on Sunday, May 5 to the Stoughton Association for Exceptional Citizens (SAEC); an organization started by the parents of special needs children.



WHY AM I A PYTHIAN

I became a member of the Knights of Pythias because I was ASKED to join by my brother who was a member at that time. That was in 1976 and I have not regretted it in all that time. I look forward to my meetings and to being able to travel and meet Knights from all over the country and Canada. I joined because I was ASKED. As I have taken this incredible journey, I have made many friends over the years and still continue to make friends everywhere I go. I have never met a Knight who did not become my friend. I am a Pythian because of not only the teachings of the order; but also, what we do in giving to our communities. We give to the Special Olympics, to the Cancer society, to the children at Christmas time, and all the countless other charities that are supported by our members. I have been asked to join other organizations and I just reply to them, that while I think their organization is a good one, I belong to the Knights of Pythias, and I will until called to serve the Supreme Chancellor on High. Until next time, ASK someone you know to look at one of our brochures and tell them about all the good things that we do and about all the wonderful people in our order.

Fraternally,

Sir Bruce H. Brown, SIG

HONOR LODGE PROGRAM

Subordinate lodges are of prime importance to our Order. There are many subordinate lodges throughout the Supreme Domain that are doing an outstanding job. They are participating in many community activities and are giving much to charity. These lodges are increasing in membership and promoting favorable name recognition for our Order (two of our important goals). The Honor Lodge Program is designed to honor these lodges and their hardworking officers. They can spread the word to other Pythians of what great lodges are doing who may learn from these examples and to give subordinate lodges an incentive to overview their entire program.

A Knight who feels that his lodge is doing an outstanding job may fill out a form summarizing what the lodge has done in the past year. This must be Signed by the lodge Secretary or Chancellor Commander and submitted to the Supreme Lodge Honor Lodge Program Committee Chairman. If the committee agrees that the lodge deserves the distinction of being designated an Honor Lodge, the lodge will receive a certificate and a letter of commendation from the Supreme Chancellor. Periodically, one or two of the Honor Lodges will be featured on the Supreme Lodge website. An honor roll of outstanding Lodges will be published. The Honor Lodges will also be recognized and congratulated by the Supreme Lodge Officer visiting officially at their Grand Convention.

Memorial Day
May 27, 2013
A Day of Remembrance

Memorial Day is here. It's time for a picnic, it's time to plan our summer vacation and just "cool it". Some never think beyond that and then there are the many Americans and others who are sad, proud and become emotional on this day.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day and started as a day to decorate the graves of the Civil War Veterans. The first Decoration Day was observed, May 30, 1868. Memorial Day is not to be confused with Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving, while Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, living or dead.

Memorial Day is a day to remember the sacrifices that so many of our young men and women gave and still give so that we can think about picnics and vacations. For those of us who were members of the Armed Forces of America, for those who lost loved ones and friends defending America and nations fighting tyranny and for all Americans let us remember this Memorial Day and remember those that are still in harm's way.

PDSC Sir Lloyd Merson/NY

**Plan now for the "Pythian Day of Divine Worship" on the
Second Sabbath of September (September 8th).
Supreme Statutes 7.2.05. Details in next issue**

Pythian International Deadlines

Articles need to be sent in to the PI Chairman by the following dates to be printed in the next issue.

March 31st for May issue

July 30th for September issue

November 30th for January issue

If you have timely news articles that you would like to share with other Grand Domains, please e-mail them to: KeithS848@aol.com. Pictures are always a plus. Thank you for your help!

PROCLAMATION

Whereas: the American Cancer Society and the Canadian Cancer Society have been officially recognized as our national charities; and,

Whereas: The American Cancer Society and the Canadian Cancer Society are nationwide community-based voluntary health organizations dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service; and,

Whereas: Millions of people are diagnosed with some form of cancer every year; and,

Whereas, Subordinate Lodges and Grand Lodges are encouraged to reach out to their communities and to participate in various activities of their choosing, with the expressed purpose of helping prevent, educate and to make aware the various services provided by the local, regional and national levels of the American Cancer Society or the Canadian Cancer Society,

NOW THEREFORE, the month of October 2013 is hereby proclaimed as CANCER AWARENESS MONTH and I do hereby instruct every subordinate lodge to plan at least one event that will involve either education or service to our national charities. At least one open meeting should be planned with the purpose of inviting spouses, friends and neighbors to participate in discussions regarding the prevention, education and awareness of the various forms and identifications of Cancer. Materials and information may be accessed on the internet by contacting the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org or by phone at 1-800-227-2345; and the Canadian Cancer Society at www.cancer.ca or by phone at 1-888-939-3333. Requested materials will be provided at no cost to the subordinate lodges and if available, arrangements should be made to invite a representative from a local Cancer Society office to attend these events.

Fraternally submitted. *Gerald R. Deitch, SC*

SUPREME LODGE FOUNDATION by Stephen B. Vickness PSC/KGS, Foundation Chm.

We have finished our major restoration of the Rathbone Monument. Look for the all-new brochure showing some of the beautification and restorations we have made to the monument and the surrounding area. The Foundation has gone through great expense and many, many hours of time. We are proud to unveil a serene, quiet, and beautiful surrounding, the resting place of our Founder, Justus Rathbone, for over one hundred and thirty years. We are pleased to present our first brochure in over fifteen years showing some of the views of the monument. We think you will agree that this is a project that each and every one of us should be proud of.

Included in this restoration are a few options available to you to be a part of our history and legacy for years to come such as the all-new Pythian Wall of Fame. Remember not to forget honoring of a Past Grand Chancellor/Past Grand Chief in their own special section devoted to those that have attained this great honor. We have also decided to continue the Grand Lodge/Grand Temple section of the monument as many have requested.

We ask that you please request your brochure and application, which has all of the pertinent information. Please remember that engravings are done in the spring-summer season. They say spring is around the corner (?), so NOW is the time to enroll and have your name added to this most gorgeous monument that has stood as a testimonial to what our founder had envisioned. Over one hundred and twenty five years later, our monument still represents Pythianism and our dedication to mankind for 150 years!

As the ONLY project recognized and endorsed by the Supreme Lodge Knights of Pythias, we ask that you once again join with us in perpetuating our beloved Order. Our monument as restored, reminds us of what our Order has stood for one hundred and fifty years! We look forward to adding your name to the Pythians already honored and thank you for your support.